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transcribed from tape

..... In Washington, I. T. & T. came up with its own version of the memo written by Dita Beard. Here is Denise Bourdet of the Pacifica Washington Bureau.

[Bourdet:] ..... The new memo, which ITT at first described as the genuine memo, contained no reference to the pending anti-trust suits against ITT. It contained only one reference to ITT involvement in the 1972 Republican convention. That statement, purportedly written by Dita Beard to William Merriam, was that if the convention were held at ITT properties in San Diego, "it obviously means unbuyable publicity for ITT."

ITT also released a sworn affidavit from Susan Lichtman, who said she worked as Dita Beard's secretary from May 24th, 1971, to about July 14th, that is, during the period when the memo was written. Lichtman said she remembered typing a memo about the San Diego convention but that she did not recognize Anderson's version of the memo. Two of the passages she did not remember typing were those that referred to ITT's "noble commitment" to the Republican convention and its effect on the anti-trust suit, and the passage which said then-Attorney General John Mitchell was helping the company but could not let it be known.

However, Lichtman did remember certain passages in the Anderson memo which evidently caused ITT some confusion. She said she remembered typing the paragraph which said only Mitchell, Nixon, California Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke, White House aide Bob Haldeman and California congressman Bob Wilson had to know where the $4000,000 commitment was coming from. She also said she remembered the passage that said Mitchell had kept the negotiations on a high level and ITT should be able to do the same.

Thus the secretary's statement confirmed about half the Anderson memo, and it made no mention of the new memo described by ITT as genuine. An ITT spokesman later retracted the "genuine" label and said he guessed they were still missing the real memo.